

**ABSTRACT**

An apparatus, system, and method for protecting a computing device from attacks while the computing device is in operation is provided. In one embodiment, the apparatus includes an input/output unit, a control unit, an execute unit, and first and  
5 second memory areas. The first memory area is accessible by a user of the computing device. The second memory area is not accessible by any users. The second memory area is configured to store return addresses and stack pointers.

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